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United Labor Issues Final Call for Strong DPA; Urges People Judge Congress in Next Election

U. S. Labor Takes Solid Stand at Milan

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
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Milan, Italy.—In the vanguard of this Second World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions are the American and Canadian delegations who, at a preliminary regional meeting here, created an informational organization to work out a joint program and thus ensure unity at this 8-day convention which opened July 4. Represented here are the AFL, CIO, United Mine Workers, Canadian Congress of Labor and Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

The deep-seated determination by the American and Canadian delegations to make a unified contribution to the Congress deliberations was apparent at their joint meeting.

At the outset, Arthur J. Goldberg, CIO General Counsel, nominated AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman of the AFL delegation, to act as chairman of the meeting. The nomination was affirmed unanimously. Woll, in turn, nominated Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers CIO and chairman of the CIO delegation, as secretary and that, too, was made unanimous. Subcommittees of the AFL, CIO, UMW and Canadian delegations were appointed to attempt to unify the different resolutions for presentation to the congress.

At a later press conference with Potofsky and Woll, the AFL spokesman emphasized that "the AFL and CIO will work together to see what can be done to raise the standards of living of all workers." And with Potofsky nodding agreement, he said that "on all international questions we will act together with the CIO because we are taking common lines of action."

The visible concern of the American and Canadian delegates over the low wages and low standards of living seen in France and Italy was referred to over and over again by them.

Seated beside them in the meeting-hall are delegations who can describe from personal knowledge what the near-starvation diets and minute wages are of their countrymen.

AFL DELEGATES WELCOMED TO ICFTU.—Milan, Italy.—L. to r., Anthony C. D'Andrea, president Chicago Laborers' District Council; AFL Vice President W. C. Doherty, president National Association of Letter Carriers; Mayor Ferrari of Milan; AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, vice president Photo-Engravers; AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, president Brotherhood of Railway Clerks; A. Philip Randolph, president of Sleeping Car Porters. Members of AFL delegation to second world congress of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions July 4-14 were welcomed to host city by Mayor Ferrari.

Washington.—Congress is letting down our country's defenses by weakening the Defense Production Act, the United Labor Policy Committee charged.

Extension of the old act, with the prohibition on price rollbacks, will expire on July 31.

United Labor issued its last call to the American people to write, phone, wire or see their congressmen to urge a stronger law as the House began voting on its version of the 1951 Defense Production Act.

The Senate has already passed a bill permitting a 20 percent rise in rents over 1947, banning any price rollbacks including beef, and watering down President Truman's powers to allocate and ration scarce materials.

The House had all these proposals before it plus another to wreck the Wage Stabilization Board.

The Byrd Dixiecrats and Taft Republicans appeared to have the votes to kill off all of President Truman's requests for a stronger law. The unholy coalition was deaf to a last-ditch campaign conducted by Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston, Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson, National Democratic Committee Chairman William Boyle and others seeking to arouse the American people to their danger.

"Members of Congress are answerable to the American people," United Labor said. "We ask now that the representatives stand up and be counted and let the people judge in the next election.

"American workers, looking at the voting record, will know that no friend of high prices can be a friend of labor."

No Friend of High Prices Can Be Friend of Labor, Leaders Assert

Washington.—Following is the text of the United Labor Policy Committee statement issued July 9 on Congress' weakening of the Defense Production Act:

This is a warning and an appeal to the American people from representatives of 15,000,000 American workers.

Congress is letting down our country's defenses.

Congress is now voting to weaken the Defense Production Act. We cannot have an effective defense production program without an effective stabilization program.

We believe that the American people agree that so long as the policies of the Soviet Union and its satellites continue to threaten free people anywhere, America and the other free nations must continue to build their military power. A cease-fire order in Korea does not justify a cease-fire in our defense production or in the campaign against inflation.

In the Senate a combination of Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans already has forced through a bill that will increase the cost of living a dollar a day for each and every American family. A similar coalition in the House of Representatives is now following suit. There is no justification whatsoever for higher prices now. Yet, lobbyists for the profiteers are exploiting the possibility of truce in Korea to further weaken price controls. Congress is succumbing to pressure from special interest lobbies with the excuse that the American people "just don't care."

Time is running out, but there are a few days left in which any American family can write, phone or wire their congressman asking his vote for an effective stabilization program.

Members of Congress are answerable to the American people, not to any group of big business lobbyists. We ask now that the representatives stand up and be counted and let the people judge in the next election.

The labor organizations represented on this United Labor Policy Committee pledge themselves to conduct a widespread educational campaign on the basis of the votes in the Senate and House on the Defense Production Act. American workers, looking at the record, will know that no friend of high prices can be a friend of labor.

$1 = 30 Cents By 1951

Washington.—Your $1 now buys 53 cents worth of goods and services in terms of 1939 prices.

Unless Congress passes a strong Defense Production Act that will really curb inflation your $1 will buy 30 cents worth of goods and services in terms of 1939 prices within 10 years.

That's the prediction of Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston.

Where's WFTU? With Red Army

Vienna, Austria.—The communist World Federation of Trade Unions, expelled from France, established new headquarters here "under the protection of the Russian Army of Occupation in eastern Austria."

President Johann Boehm of the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions said the Austrian free trade unions did not invite the WFTU and are "entirely uninterested" in the WFTU. The Austrian federation has long since withdrawn from the WFTU and affiliated with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

URGE VETO

Washington.—The United Labor Policy Committee urged President Truman to veto the Mexican Farm Labor Importation Act passed by Congress.

It acted even as Mr. Truman's congressional leaders urged him to sign the law which would continue to exploit Mexicans and undermine American standards.

AFL President William Green earlier had urged a veto.

Limits on Metals Force Layoffs

Washington.—Rigid U. S. restrictions on the use of scarce metals are forcing needless job layoffs.

AFL President William Green asked Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson and National Production Administrator Manly Fleischmann to tailor these restrictions and modify them in individual cases to help small manufacturers to keep operating, retain their trained employes, and reduce to the greatest extent possible the dislocations in the civilian economy.

Mr. Green said that the inability of many smaller firms using steel, aluminum and copper to obtain adequate supplies of these scarce metals "has raised serious problems for many unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor."

He urged that "much greater efforts than have been made up to now must be directed toward assuring a more widespread distribution of defense contracts" among a greater number of small and independent firms.

He asked also for "sympathetic recognition of difficulties of many firms switching from civilian to defense work."

"There are many cases where the limitations imposed on the use of metals in current production has already forced, or soon will force, substantial layoffs of the very workers who will soon be needed for defense production," Mr. Green said.

In such cases, he argued, relief from limitation orders should be granted to prevent the available work force from drifting away to other employment.

"Hoarding of scarce items, favoritism of [illegible] corporations because they are [illegible] active steady customers and similar inequitable practices should be [illegible]nted," Mr. Green said. "Positive assistance to smaller firms in locating and obtaining scarce materials is also needed."

AFL Urges Higher Interest Savings Bond to Spur Sales

Washington.—AFL President William Green asked Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder to issue a new savings bond carrying 3.6 percent interest to stem the cashing of E bonds and spur a new savings program to help halt the inflationary tide.

Mr. Green said in a letter that the new bonds should have the general characteristics of Series E bonds—non-negotiable, non-transferable, a limit on the number held by any individual, a variety of maturity dates from less than 10 up to 20 years.

Not even the Korean war has halted the redemptions of $25 and $50 Series E bonds, Mr. Green said. A big majority of families with income lower than $5,000 do not possess any U. S. savings bonds, including 76 percent of the unskilled workers, 63 percent of the semi-skilled and 51 percent of clerical and sales workers.

Mr. Green said "the American people will respond with greatly increased savings" if the AFL suggestions for a more attractive program are followed.

Factory Layoffs Continue Rise

Washington.—Layoffs of workers in manufacturing industries rose in May for the second straight month, largely because of recent cutbacks in automobile production and reduced activity in certain other consumer goods manufacturing industries.

The U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics said the factory layoff rate per 1,000 employes rose to 13 in May from 10 in April and 8 in March. The May rate, however, was still at approximately the same level as in the earlier post war years of high employment of 1947 and 1948.

The sharpest rise in layoffs over the month was in the transportation equipment industry, including automobiles, where the rate increased from 19 per 1,000 in April, to 36 in May. Sizeable increases in layoffs were also reported in the textile, apparel, leather products and furniture industries, where recent reports have indicated a greater-than-seasonal slackening in activity.

Despite the rise in layoffs, factory workers continued to be hired in May at about the same rate as in the three preceding months—45 per 1,000 employes.

AFL Calls 70th Convention

Washington.—"You are hereby notified that, in pursuance of the constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Seventieth Convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in the Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, Calif., at 10 o'clock Monday morning, September 17, 1951, and will continue in session from day to day until the business of the convention shall have been completed.

That historic summons was issued by AFL President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and the Executive Council to all AFL affiliates. The 4-page call concluded:

"Secretaries will please read this call at first meeting of their organization. Labor and reform press please copy."

In their call the AFL officials said:

"During the days, weeks and months which have intervened since the adjournment of the Sixty-ninth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, we have witnessed a clashing of ideologies and political philosophies here within our homeland and abroad as well. The question we must answer is—Shall our free, democratic way of life and form of government survive, or shall it all be supplanted by totalitarianism and governmental domination?

"The facts show that America is now the last stronghold of the free enterprise system. Because we place such a high value upon the blessings of freedom, liberty and democracy, our membership will fight to maintain this priceless heritage and to prevent the infiltration of a totalitarian philosophy into the ranks of American labor.

"Behold the picture. The advocates of a totalitarian philosophy are carrying on an aggressive campaign in every nook throughout the world for the purpose of substituting the communist philosophy for the democratic form of government. For that reason we are living in a world of confusion and uncertainty. We can not see nor can we tell whether we are facing a third world war with all its evil consequences and destructive effects.

"The officers and delegates in attendance at the Seventieth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor must therefore face the facts. We must declare in positive terms our determination never to surrender but instead to fight more aggressively than ever and extend to our government full and complete assurance of our cooperation and support in any world fight which may be made for the preservation of liberty, freedom and democracy and in opposition to totalitarianism and communism."

AFL CONVENTION CALENDAR

Washington.—Important dates in connection with the 70th AFL Convention at San Francisco:

Aug. 17—Last day for submitting resolutions, petitions, memorials and appeals to AFL headquarters, Washington, D. C., except those of national unions or federations holding conventions during the 30 days immediately preceding the AFL convention.

Aug. 31—Deadline for paying per capita tax.

Sept. 1—Last day to make hotel reservations and receive confirmation.

Sept. 7—Credentials committee meets at AFL headquarters, Washington.

Sept. 17—70th Annual Convention begins, Civic Auditorium, San Francisco.

ELECTED 23d TIME.—Atlantic City, N. J.—Secretary-Treasurer Vincent J. Murphy (left), Newark, N. J., and Second Vice President William Carter (center), Summit, N. J., congratulate Michael F. Condron, Orange N. J., upon his election by the New Jersey State Federation of Labor for his 23d consecutive term as first vice president.

CITED FOR ADDING AFFILIATES.—Atlantic City, N. J.—Hugh Glover (left), Newark, N. J., honorary president Ye Olde Tymers Club of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor, presents to New Jersey AFL President Louis Marciante a citation of merit for personally leading the drive which brought 165 additional AFL bodies into the federation within eight months, a new high record.

ICFTU Makes Gains As Red Unions Lose Ground Since 1949

Milan, Italy.—The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions claimed 17 new national trade union centers in 18 months since the London meeting in December 1949.

J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general, said the ICFTU speaks for 55 national trade union groups compared to 67 when first organized. He said the gains were made at the expense of communist-dominated unions.

The ICFTU was formed to battle the communist World Federation of Trade Unions and has made great strides in that fight. The WFTU has lost almost all of its strength in the free nations.

ICFTU President Paul Finet of Belgium said in his inaugural address that the main task of the free trade unions is to support the western rearmament program in defense of the democratic freedoms.

He urged, however, that the trade unions make sure that the defense effort is not used as a pretext for social reaction.

FAIRBANKS ADDED

Fairbanks, Alaska.—The American Federation of Labor radio news program is now being carried locally.

W. F. Laughlin, secretary Fairbanks Labor Council, announced that the comment of Frank Edwards is being aired over Fairbanks station KFAR, the second in Alaska.

Anchorage began carrying the AFL program April 1.

Leo Lucas Given Union Label Post

Washington.—Leo F. Lucas, former OPA liaison officer for the American Federation of Labor, was named assistant secretary-treasurer of the AFL Union Label Trades Department by Secretary-Treasurer Raymond F. Leheney.

The appointment of Lucas, who has been a member of the staff of the department for three years, was necessitated by the increased activities of the department, Mr. Leheney said.

Mr. Lucas has a long background of service to the American Federation of Labor. He is an honorary vice president of the Stove Mounters International Union; was assistant secretary of the Kentucky State Federation of Labor from 1941 to 1944; represented the AFL on the War Labor Board, War Manpower Commission and was in charge of the scrap drive for Louisville, Ky., during World War II.

He is a native of Louisville, where he is just completing his second term as a member of the City Board of Aldermen. He is now up for reelection to his third term. Several years ago Lucas held the post of acting mayor of Louisville, serving out an unexpired term of the mayor.

This brings to two the number of assistant secretaries named by Leheney since taking office last September. It is in accordance with the planned expansion of the department. Following the AFL convention last year in Houston, Tex., James P. Walsh of Cincinnati was named assistant to Mr. Leheney.

LEO F. LUCAS

Louisville, Ky.—Honorary vice president AFL Stove Mounters Union and member Louisville City Board of Aldermen was appointed assistant secretary-treasurer AFL Union Label Trades Department

New Jersey AFL Hails Court Rule Blocking Raid on Unemployment Fund

AFL UNION BUYS BONAPART HOUSE

Philadelphia.—The AFL Reinforced Concrete Steel Workers Local Union 405 bought as its headquarters the historic home at 260 S. 9th St., the house once occupied by Joseph Bonaparte, older brother of Napoleon, after his exile as King of Spain and Naples in 1814.

John Petrin, union business agent, said the historic appearance of the building will be preserved.

Many stories have been circulated that a cache of gold bullion is secreted in a forgotten sub-cellar.

Newark, N.J.—The New Jersey State Federation of Labor hailed the State Supreme Court decision in the Horsman Dolls case which blocked a $100 million raid on the state's Unemployment Compensation Fund.

The appellate division previously had upheld the employer's contention that it was not liable for claims for benefits filed by employes idle because of seasonal slack. The State AFL had intervened to have this ruling upset, which the high court did, 3-2.

Horsman Dolls, a Trenton concern, based its plea on a flimsy legal technicality, namely, that it had not received a notice of the initial determination of the Unemployment Compensation Commission and therefore its rights were impaired under the due process clause of the state and federal constitutions.

State Secretary-Treasurer Vincent J. Murphy said that an adverse ruling by the Supreme Court "would have been disastrous and would have endangered of the very solvency of the Unemployment Insurance Reserve Fund."

Governor Driscoll had refused to call a special legislative session to adopt corrective legislation. He did not approve a special bill introduced by Assemblyman Lewis M. Herrmann and passed by the legislature under AFL prodding.

ACTU MEETS

Philadelphia.—Delegates from 15 chapters attended the 6th national convention of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists, founded in 1937.

Wage Rise Averts Telegraph Strike

Washington. — AFL Commercial Telegraphers' Union won an immediate 15 cents an hour wage increase plus 4 cents more to be effective Sept. 1 from Western Union Telegraph Co.

The agreement, negotiated with the help of Federal Mediator J. R. Mandelbaum, averted a nation-wide strike by 35,000 Western Union employes set for July 2.

Messengers will receive 7½ cents an hour immediately with another 2½ cents an hour boost effective Sept. 1.

Texas AFL Boosts Per Capita 3 Cents To Finance Public Relations Setup

Galveston, Tex.—The Texas State Federation of Labor voted an increase in per capita tax from 5 to 8 cents to finance establishment of a public relations system.

Organized labor generally and the Texas AFL, in particular, has been the target of one of the most vicious anti-labor drives in a decade in the state legislature and large cities. The public relations program will attempt to counteract this offensive.

The convention passed a number of resolutions aimed at ending the illegal invasion of "wetbacks"—Mexican workers who swim or wade the Rio Grande River to work on farms, railroads and in building trades at low American wages.

One of the series of "wetback" resolutions charges that the Texas Employment Commission is making false reports concerning the availability of farm laborers in some sections along the border.

The executive board and the convention gave approval to a plan for organized labor in Texas to buy a controlling interest in the Insurance Company of Texas. This will be advantageous, sponsors of the plan say, because of the profit which such a company would return to its owners and because of the possibilities of increased activity the insurance setup would give.

The term of the executive secretary was changed from 1 to 2 years, and a pay raise was granted for that office.

Two new vice presidential districts were approved—one in the Valley and one in west Texas.

The convention returned to office every one of the officers who chose to run. Reelected by acclamation were President William Harris, Dallas; Executive Secretary Paul C. Sparks, Houston; Sergeant-at-Arms Frank Womack, El Paso; Reading Clerk Fred Lucas, Houston.

Vice Presidents: C. R. Saunders, Temple; W. S. East, San Angelo; G. F. Webber, El Paso; Bill Sams, Lubbock; M. M. McKnight, Fort Worth; A. R. Johnson, Longview; E. B. Gross, Beaumont; J. A. McMahon, Jr., Houston, and L. A. Townsend, Galveston.

Freeman Everett, Houston, withstood efforts to unseat him by Lee A. Lewis, also of Houston. Kenneth Mabry, Corpus Christi, was elected without opposition to succeed H. S. Brown of San Antonio after Gene Barton, Brownsville, withdrew. Charlotte Morgan, Dallas, was named 11th vice president over Mrs. Carmen Powell, Wichita Falls, in the only other contested race.

6-YEAR-OLD ENJOYS 6TH CONVENTION

Galveston, Tex.—DeAnne Wilson, Port Arthur, Tex., 6 years old last May, attended her 6th Texas State Federation of Labor convention in June—believed to be a record.

Her father is Buford Wilson, business agent AFL Laborers' Local 885, Port Arthur, and elected as state head of the laborers' group at the 53d convention.

California AFL Enlightens Insurance Companies by Successful Boycott

By JOHN F. HENNING
San Francisco Correspondent AFL News Service

San Francisco.—A major result of the 1951 session of the California State Legislature is the lifting of the State Federation of Labor's boycott of private disability insurance carriers.

The boycott was in effect since the 1949 convention of the state AFL.

In a communication directed to all AFL unions and councils, Executive Secretary C. J. Haggerty reported that the private carriers had cooperated with the state federation in securing passage of improvements to the disability insurance law during the 1951 general session.

Despite bitter opposition from powerful employer lobbies, the combined backing of the AFL and insurance representatives brought about the following significant improvements in the disability law:

(1) Boost in maximum weekly benefits from $25 to $30.

(2) Workers on strike may collect benefits if disability is from causes other than strike activities.

(3) Workers may receive full hospitalization benefits when confined to a hospital, in addition to 100 percent remuneration received from employers.

(4) Workers may collect regular benefits if such benefits, together with remuneration received from employers, do not exceed 70 percent of the regular weekly wage.

The California disability insurance program is financed exclusively by the workers of the state who contribute 1 percent of their wages (up to $3,000) to the state fund, or to a private insurance unit when they have so consented.

During the 1949 session of the state legislature the insurance carriers fought all improvements to the disability law regardless of how they would affect the solvency of the state fund, while in the 1951 session they agreed to support progressive measures that would not endanger such solvency.

In his communication, Mr. Haggerty pointed out that the lifting of the boycott did not indicate an endorsement of private disability plans as such, since this is a question to be determined by local unions, but rather, constituted recognition of the enlightened attitude taken by the carriers during the 1951 legislature.

The national Big Business tidal wave to repeal the U. S. income tax law was turned back in California where the state legislature soundly repudiated the effort to impose a 25 percent ceiling on federal income taxes.

The scheme was embodied in Senate Joint Resolution No. 10 which was battered down in the California upper house on June 4, by a vote of 23 to 15, following the heavy protests of the California State Federation of Labor.

In the closing days of the recently concluded state session, a move to reconsider the earlier action was whipped by a vote of 21 to 14.

Green Asks Veto Of Mexican Bill

Washington.—AFL President William Green asked President Truman to veto the Mexican labor importation bill passed by Congress on June 30.

"It certainly goes far afield from the findings and recommendations of your Commission on Migratory Labor," Mr. Green said in a letter to Mr. Truman.

"This legislation discriminates against American workers employed in large scale agriculture and provides no means of setting standards of wages or working conditions for our own citizens."

Mr. Green listed the many shortcomings of the measure pushed through House and Senate by Dixiecrats and Reactionary Republicans.

He said it would nullify existing immigration laws, wreck American workers' labor standards in the food processing plants, discriminates by exempting Mexican nationals from income and social security taxes, and is inadequate and unfair in its provisions for payment of transportation costs of the Mexicans.

"The provision assessing employers of imported Mexican workers the sum of $15 for each worker is much too low," Mr. Green said. "This means the U. S. Treasury must make up the difference in cost of transportation, subsistence en route and while workers are in the reception centers awaiting employment or return to their home.

"In the opinion of the American Federation of Labor, this is a thinly disguised subsidy for a large number of agricultural and processing employers who hire seasonal labor.

"We urge that you veto the Ellender-Poage Mexican Labor Importation Bill (S. 984), and we believe that such a veto will be sustained in the Congress."

The bill completely ignored recommendations of President Truman's special commission which spent months studying the national scandal created by ruthless, profit-hungry employers of the Southwest who exploit imported Mexican nationals and drive American-born citizens into a no-made search for existence.

Mr. Truman's commission recommended steps to eliminate the disgrace but Congress failed to accept any of them.

WIN TV RIGHTS

Hollywood, Calif.—In 6 elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board at Los Angeles, but covering also some production at New York City, the AFL Screen Actors Guild won the right to continue representing actors employed by the 6 companies in question by a total vote of 439 to 48, a better than 9 to 1 margin, over a new, live talent television union called Television Authority.

Screen Actors Guild is confirmed as the official bargaining agent for actors employed by motion picture producers making more than 99 per cent of all pictures made in the United States, including television films. Under federal government ruling, the Guild will represent actors in television films made by these employers as well as theatrical, industrial, educational and other types of films. Considerable picture production at New York is covered by the elections.

Ohio, Idaho, Ariz. Join Fight For DPA

Washington.—AFL organizations in Ohio, Arizona, and Idaho joined those of 13 other states in reporting efforts to get a stronger Defense Production Act to control rents and prices.

AFL President William Green called on all state federations and central labor unions to contact their representatives and senators urging enactment of a bill to halt spiraling inflation. He asked them to report to him on their action.

Telegrams and letters were sent to their members of Congress by the Pocatello, Idaho, Central Labor Union and Building and Construction Trades Council; Duluth, Minn. Federated Trades and Labor Assembly; Vancouver, Wash., Central Labor Council; Reading, Pa., Local 496 Boot and Shoe Workers Union; Yuma, Ariz., Building and Construction Trades Council; Wood River, Ill. Central Labor Union; Chicago Building and Construction Trades Council.

Officials of the Ohio State Federation of Labor joined with other officers of the United Labor Committee of that state to confer with Ohio congressmen in Washington. Twenty members of the House attended. Rep. Robert Crosser, Sens. Robert A. Taft and John W. Bricker were unable to be present.

Ohio AFL representatives attending the meeting were: Michael J. Lyden, president, and Phil Hannah, secretary-treasurer Ohio State Federation of Labor; William Finegan, secretary-treasurer Cleveland Federation of Labor; John E. Breidenbach, president Dayton Central Labor Union; Fred Basser, secretary Cincinnati Central Labor Council; Matthew DeMore, International Association of Machinists, District 54; Clayton R. Lee, business manager, Cleveland Electrical Workers 38; Al Vesy, executive secretary, Columbus Federation of Labor; Robert Burwinkle, Ohio Construction and Building Trades Council, and Jack Breidenbach, business representative, Local 250 Hotel and Restaurant Employes, Dayton.

Finns Quit WFTU, To Join ICFTU

Helsinki, Finland.—The Finnish Federation of Labor withdrew from the communist World Federation of Trade Unions and voted affiliation to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Finnish leaders, some of whom were guests of the AFL on a visit to Washington last year, dealt the Red-led WFTU one of its worst blows in formally withdrawing.

The WFTU and Russia's socalled trade union movement sent its top officials as observers to the Finnish meeting.

Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe, and J. H. Oldenbrock, general secretary ICFTU, represented the free world trade unions. Britain, Norway, Sweden and Denmark also sent noncommunist trade unionists as observers and demonstration of support from the free world.

Green Praises Shipyard Workers In Building Great U. S. Navy

Philadelphia.—AFL President William Green praised the workers' role in building great United States Navy at the dinner celebrating the 150th anniversary of Philadelphia Navy Yard. AFL unions represent employes at the yard.

"Without the great ships built in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, it is doubtful if America could have survived as a free and independent nation," Mr. Green said.

"But history speaks only of the men who sailed these ships and the captains who commanded them. It says nothing of the men who built these warships—of the carpenters, the shipfitters, the welders, the electricians, machinists, boilermakers and many other craftsmen whose skill and labor served in making America the world's greatest naval power.

"It is altogether fitting and appropriate, therefore, that we attempt to correct the omissions of history by paying tribute to the role of the employes of the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and the other shipyards of the nation in the preservation of the free nation our forefathers conceived here.

"Perhaps the saw and the hammer, the welding torch and the monkey-wrench are not as glamorous as cannon and torpedoes—but they and the men trained to use them deserve a share of the nation's praise for helping to make America strong and unconquerable."

ON BUILDING TRADES WAGE BOARD.—Washington.—AFL members of Wage Stabilization Commission for Building and Construction Industry, assigned all jurisdiction over wage contracts in the industry, are l. to r., AFL Vice President Dan W. Tracy, president Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; O. William Blaier, board member United Brotherhood of Carpenters; President Richard J. Gray, AFL Building and Construction Trades Department; John W. Garvey, assistant to president International Hod Carriers and Laborers Union.

Forced to Strike, Capital Transit Workers Win New Contract Gains

Washington. — Division 689 AFL Amalgamated Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes were forced into a 3-day strike against Capital Transit Co. by the company's refusal to arbitrate contract issues in dispute.

The union won not only the major gains it sought in a new 2-year agreement but also the editorial support of the city's two most influential newspapers, the Star and Post. Both papers carried editorials which assailed that the company's reasons for refusal to arbitrate were not sufficient.

The union offer of arbitration with no strings several days before the strike deadline and a timely-placed half-page newspaper advertisement the day the strike occurred helped to win public opinion to the workers' point of view.

The union won two additional premium paid holidays, Fourth of July and Labor Day; 15 cents an hour general wage increase; 3 cents an hour for fringe benefits, including 3 weeks vacation after 10 years and an increase in pensions from $50 to $70 per month; and a detailed seniority provision.

The company forced the strike by refusing to agree to a compromise on or arbitration of seniority prior to the expiration of the old agreement.

Transit Union Holds 30-Year No-Strike Record in Chicago

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—The Chicago streetcar men's union voted to accept a new contract with the Chicago Transit Authority providing a 7-cent hourly raise Aug. 1, a 3-cent further raise Jan. 1, 1952, and an additional 4-cent raise June 1, 1952.

In addition to the general increases in basic rates the 14,000 employes covered will be paid a percentage costof-living increase quarterly according to the BLS Consumers' Price Index for Chicago goes up.

The cost-of-living adjustment will not be added to basic rates but only to each individual employe's earnings. The adjustment, however, will be used in computing straight time and overtime earnings in the same manner as the basic hourly rate.

Operators of 1-man cars and buses will go up to $1.80 an hour on Jan. 1, 1952, plus the cost-of-living adjustment, if any.

The wage raise brings operators' base rates to $1.70 an hour and mechanics to $1.83 hourly.

Vacation clauses of the new contract provide for a week's paid vacation after a year's service, 2 after 5 years and 3 weeks after 7 years.

The union, Division 241 of the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, has not had a strike since 1921. A sister local, Division 308, represents rapid transit employes in the same traction system.

AIRCRAFT HIRING TOPS

Washington.—Hiring for the booming aircraft industry is setting the pace for defense plants. Employment in the industry was 413,200 in April, 160,000 greater than in April 1950.

CONGRESS ADDS $1 A DAY COSTS

Washington. — Economic Stabilization Administrator Eric Johnston said that the Defense Production Act as extended to July 31 by the "3-day-a-week Congress" is adding $1 a day to the living costs of the average family.

He said that if Congress stands firm on its decision to rule out any further price rollbacks, the cost of living will rise $12 to $14 billion a year and force up defense costs $3 to $5 billion.

Kearns Appointed To Toronto Chest

Toronto, Ontario, Can.—William D. Kearns of the AFL Beverage Dispensers Union Local 280 was appointed full-time labor staff representative to the Community Chest of Greater Toronto.

The appointment, made by the Toronto Trades and Labor Council, is the first of its kind in the Dominion of Canada and is expected to serve as a pattern for other centers.

Mr. Kearns, who helped to organize Local 280 in 1941, is secretary-treasurer and business agent. He has served four years as a director of the Community Chest.

FEW STRIKES

Washington.—At midyear federal mediators described the national labor relations scene as more peaceful than it had been in a long time.

There not only were no major strikes in progress but the horizon was unclouded by the threat of a work stoppage of national importance.

Clyde M. Mills, deputy to Federal Mediation Chief Cyrus S. Ching, said that labor-management relations over the country as a whole were about as peaceful as at any time he could recall.

Virginia—Cradle of Liberty—1951 Style: Fines For Unions

Richmond, Va.—Virginia advertises itself as the "Cradle of Liberty."

But that applies only to the past, not the present.

Circuit Judge Harold F. Snead upheld a $276,437 award made by a Richmond court jury against the United Mine Workers in favor of Laburnum Construction Co. for alleged damages suffered in a July 1946 work stoppage.

At Norfolk, Local 333-B AFL International Longshoremen's Association was fined $7,500; its president, H. L. Everton, fined $1,000 and sent to jail 10 days, and its secretary, W. L. Owens, fined $750 and sentenced to 5 days in jail, for striking the Norfolk ferry in violation of an injunction issued under the state's punitive antistrike law.

Because of the ferry strike, the Virginia State Department of Ferries turned strikebreaker and advertised in Washington, D. C., newspapers—in the Sunday sports sections—"Seamen wanted, 40 to 50 men with Coast Guard certificates as able bodied seamen, under age barrier, to operate ferries in Norfolk area, good wages and working conditions."

Never a word that they were wanted to take the place of strikers or that a labor dispute existed.

3-Day Wk. Congress Fiddles With Bills The Nation Needs

Washington.—The 82d is the "Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Congress."

That's the title pinned on it by Senate Majority Leader Ernest W. McFarland.

"You can't get many members to come in by Monday or stay on Friday," he complained.

The Senate has abandoned plans for a summer recess so that it can pass between "Sept. 15 and Oct. 1" four pieces of necessary legislation.

These are the Defense Production Act, tax bill, authorization and funds for $8.5 billion military and economic assistance abroad, and the appropriation bills to keep government going another year.

The Senate passed the DPA in two hysterical days, then encumbered it a 31-day extension to July 31 of the old controls but banning any price rollbacks.

Sens. Robert A. Taft and Burnet Maybank complained that the country won't blame Congress for inflation, that it is President Truman's fault. But the New York Times answered them editorially:

"The present level of prices will certainly prove to be a temporary plateau unless Congress employs the present breathing spell in the responsible manner that the country has a right to expect of it."

The House meanwhile began debate on its Defense Program Act which is slightly stronger than the Senate version but which may even weaker when finally enacted if the Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans have their way.

One proposed amendment would wreck the Wage Stabilization Board.

The Administration announced plans to wage a campaign for a stronger law.

GET UNION SHOP

Vancouver, British Columbia, Can.—A 5-year agreement with a union shop clause was signed by the AFL Building and Construction Trades and Morrison-Knudsen Co. of Canada, contractors for the giant Aluminum Company of Canada power project in British Columbia known as Alcan Project.

Construction rates range from $1.40 per hour for laborers to $2.10 per hour for ironworkers.

ATTENDS UNESCO

Paris, France.—President John E. Eklund of AFL American Federation of Teachers and vocational counselor Denver, Colo., schools, was an adviser to the American delegation at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations meeting.

HASKEL NAMED

Washington.—Benjamin Haskel, research director AFL United Textile Workers and editor of the union's "The Textile Challenger," was elected a member of the labor committee of the National Planning Association.

TAFT SAYS COME 1952 AND—

Washington.—Sen. Robert A. Taft urged a Senate committee to approve a rules change permitting minority party senators to serve on 3 instead of the present two committees. He said it is a suggestion made as "a public service."

"I don't expect to be in the minority next year," quoth he.

Office Employes Plan Organizing Drive; Seek Exemption From WSB

Toronto, Ont., Canada.—The AFL Office Employes International Union directed the executive board to draft a plan of organization designed to unionize large numbers of office and clerical employes in the shortest period of time.

The 1951 convention called also for exemption of white collar workers from wage controls, rollback of prices to pre-Korean levels, continuation of rent controls, reduction of the tax burden on lower income brackets, and for numerous changes in the international union constitution.

President Paul R. Hutchings, who was reelected, listed major organizing campaigns underway in atomic energy, aircraft manufacturing, public utilities, paper and pulp industry, insurance, hotels and hospitalization. He said there is a potential membership of 6,000,000 white collar workers in the United States and Canada.

The union has locals in 41 states and 6 provinces.

In addition to Mr. Hutchings, other officers elected were:

J. Howard Hicks, secretary-treasurer; vice presidents—Region 1, Harold E. Beck, Howard J. Coughlin, George P. Firth, Edward P. Springman; Region 2, James A. Browning, A. R. Carson; Region 3, Winifred Evans, L. G. Nygren; Region 4, John B. Kinnick, Max J. Krug, Terry Parker; Region 5, Walter W. Milne.

Vice Presidents Frank F. Randall, Lucian A. Brunson and C. A. Stafford did not stand for reelection. The next convention will be held in June, 1953.

Oregon AFL Raps College Deferments

Klamath Falls, Ore.—The Oregon State Federation of Labor adopted a resolution opposing the present system of deferring college students as discrimination contrary to our democratic principles. Text of the resolution follows:

Whereas, There should be no discrimination in the choice of those who are to serve their country in the armed forces, and

Whereas, The present system of giving examinations to college students means that those who have financial backing are more likely to be deferred than those of equal or better ability who are unable to attend college because of lack of money, and

Whereas, This discrimination is contrary to the democratic principals of this government, and

Whereas, This method will foster the growth of an elite class of intellectuals which perpetuated the caste systems in the old world, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention go on record as opposing the present system of deferring college students.

SHOT PIERCES LUNDEBERG CAR

San Francisco.—A shot from the car ahead of him pierced but did not penetrate the windshield of the car driven by Harry Lundeberg, president AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific.

Mr. Lundeberg said that the shot was fired at him while he was returning from a holiday visit in the country.

"It's just one of those things, you make a lot of enemies in this business," he said.

"I have my own ideas who did it," he said. "I generally travel equipped to take care of such situations. I was feeling punk—got an awful cold—or they wouldn't have caught me napping like that. They won't again."

S. Carolina AFL Criticizes Byrnes For Killing Raise

Greenville, S. C.—Earle R. Britton, reelected president South Carolina Federation of Labor, criticized Gov. James F. Byrnes for killing a pay raise for highway department employes.

Mr. Britton said the wages paid by the department are "awful."

He also criticized wage scales offered workers on the Savannah River H-bomb project of the Atomic Energy Commission. The federation's 36th annual convention called on international unions to urge their locals employed on the Savannah River project to affiliate to the state federation.

In addition to Mr. Britton, the convention elected Fred E. Hatchell, Columbia, secretary-treasurer and these vice presidents:

George P. Bailey, Greenville; George P. Tuck, Spartanburg; Andy Boyter, Winnsboro; E. Hayes, Charleston; R. I. Hazel, Newberry; E. E. Ronkins, Laurens; R. G. Walters, Columbia, and L. E. Ritter, Beaufort.

WIN CORNING

Central Falls, Rhode Island.—The AFL American Flint Glass Workers Union successfully climaxed a long organizing campaign by winning bargaining rights and a new contract for 1,000 workers at the Corning Glass Works.

The plant had been unorganized.

Oregon AFL Gets Proposal to Enter Morse's Name in State Primary

Klamath Falls, Ore.—A resolution was introduced in the 49th Oregon State Federation of Labor convention to instruct the officers to file the name of Republican Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon in the Oregon primary election next May as a candidate for the nomination for President of the United States.

Most of the delegates who signed the resolution are Democrats but the resolution did not designate the political party in which the senator's name was to be filed.

The convention referred the resolution to the Oregon League for Political Education.

Action followed an address by Senator Morse who came home to tell Oregon labor that he approves the retirement of General Douglas MacArthur and to serve notice on his party in the state that he will not pledge himself to support the Republican party nominee for President in 1952 if the nominee does not measure up to Senator Morse's standard of liberalism.

Senator Morse said Senator Taft has been wrong more often than he has been right.

The convention, reiterating the past political policy of the federation, invited cooperation of other groups in political effort, but emphatically announced that the federation would not enter into a joint organization under which it would surrender its prerogative to choose the candidates it would dorsement of candidates for public office was rejected by a close vote.

Officers for a 2-year term were nominated by the convention in a referendum election ending Aug. 15. President J. D. McDonald and Executive Secretary A. T. Marr were renominated without opposition.

Officers of the federation were instructed to invoke the referendum on a cigarette sales tax bill which was adopted by the legislature. Other adopted resolutions on the state level called for liberalizing benefits under workmen's compensation and unemployment compensation.

The convention repeated its opposition to daylight saving time and approved an initiative by the Oregon Farmers Union to establish standard time unless the federal government adopts legislation to declare daylight time uniform throughout the nation.

Officers of the Washington, Idaho and California Federations attended the Oregon convention and took steps to advance the cooperating alliance which has been promoted in the past several years.

Among speakers, in addition to Senator Morse, were Dr. George Stoik of Czechoslovakia, Gov. Douglas McKay, State Grange Master McClure, representatives of veterans' organizations and others.

The 1952 convention will observe the 50th anniversary of the state federation's organization.

AFL EMPLOYE 49 YEARS DIES

Washington.—Miss Irene Rodier, employed by the American Federation of Labor 49 years 7 months, died July 9 after a long illness.

Her term of service is the longest at AFL headquarters. She was employed in the bookkeeping department and had been hired by Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL.

Glass Workers Ask 20 Cent Pay Raise; Reelect H. H. Cook

Atlantic City, N. J.—The AFL American Flint Glass Workers Union of North America sought 20 cents an hour or 20 percent general wage increase in negotiations scheduled for July 30-31 with the National Association of Manufacturers of Pressed and Blown Glassware and the Labor Relations Committee of the Glass Container Manufacturers Institute.

The union also asked improvement in paid vacation plans, retirement pensions and a general health plan.

The wage program was approved by the 74th and 2d consolidated convention of the union held in New York.

President Harry H. Cook, Toledo, Ohio, was reelected by acclamation for a 12th consecutive term. James W. Mitchell, Vineland, N. J., was elected international assistant secretary to succeed Arthur A. Elbert, who was designated international assistant secretary emeritus.

Reelected by acclamation were Vice Presidents William G. Muhleman, Victor G. Walk, Guy A. Alexander, all of Toledo, and Secretary-Treasurer Charles M. Scheff, Toledo.

Elected international representatives were Edward Shay, Star City, W. Va.; Harold Gibbons, Toledo, Ohio; R. K. Ritchie, Clarksburg, W. Va.; Charles E. Lavelle, Jeannette, Pa.; Albert Vottero, Jeannette, Pa.; Clark Gamble, Cambridge, Ohio; Henry E. Donley, Wellsburg, W. Va.; John A. Rebmann, Vineland, N. J.

Mr. Cook, John E. Bradford and Floyd R. Sorrell, Lancaster, Ohio, were chosen delegates to the AFL convention.

TO FETE GRAY

New York.—Richard J. Gray, president AFL Building and Construction Trades Council, will be tendered a bon voyage testimonial at Hotel Commodore July 18 prior to his departure for England where he will serve as AFL fraternal delegate to the British Trades Union Congress.

The testimonial is sponsored by the Building and Construction Trades Department of New York State.

Mr. Gray will attend the BTUC annual meeting in England early in September and fly directly from London to San Francisco for the annual meeting of the Building and Construction Trades Department and report to the 70th AFL Convention.

AFL Vice President Charles J. MacGowan is the other fraternal delegate to the BTUC this year.

NAME MESKIMEN

Washington.—Price Stabilization Director Michael V. DiSalle named as his labor adviser John K. Meskimen, a member of the AFL Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.

The appointment completes United Labor Policy Committee representation in top defense mobilization positions.

Following 5½ years service abroad in the U. S. manpower and labor-relations program in Germany, Mr. Meskimen returned to this country in October 1950. Since February, he has been employed as consultant to the Defense Manpower Administration, U. S. Department of Labor.

ASKS PAY HELP

Washington.—AFL President William Green asked state federations of labor, central labor unions and federal labor unions to write or wire their congressmen urging a 17 percent pay raise for U. S. postal and other government workers.

He pointed out that the government employe gets his benefits only through legislation, has no contract and can't strike.

Mr. Green requested letters endorsing S. 355, Committee Print No. 1, and S. 622 in the Senate; H. R. 241, H. R. 244 and H. R. 1893 in the House of Representatives.

German, Free China and Spanish Delegates Given ICFTU Ovations

(Sidelights on the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions second world congress July 4-14, Milan, Italy.)

GERMANS BICYCLE THERE

Milan, Italy.—A German trade union youth delegation, introduced by Christian Fette, Hans Bockler's successor as president of the German Federation of Trade Unions, conveyed greetings from the youth of Germany to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions Congress. This delegation, which made the journey from Dusseldorf by bicycle, leaving there June 21, received a rousing reception.

HONOR DECEASED LEADERS

Milan, Italy.—The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions observed a minute's silence in tribute to those great trades unionists, the late Ernest Bevin of Great Britain, Hans Bockler of Germany, Cornelius Mertens and Jan Oudegeest.

HOPES RISE IN SPAIN

Milan, Italy.—Delegates to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions enthusiastically applauded Pascual Tomas, Spanish General Workers Union-in-Exile, who spoke of the hopes raised by the recent strikes in Barcelona, Madrid and the Basque country that the long suffering of the people under the Franco dictatorship may soon end.

DOHERTY SPEAKS ON AID

Milan, Italy.—AFL Vice President W. C. Doherty, president National Association of Letter Carriers, spoke for all U. S. labor to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on the work to be done by the ICFTU in organizing workers in the underdeveloped areas of the world.

ASIA WELCOMES ICFTU

Milan, Italy.—Delegates to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions from Pakistan, India, Malaya appealed to the trade unions of the western industrialized countries to continue to come to their assistance and to offer them the benefits of their advice on the organization of their trade unions and the improvement of the living conditions of their people.

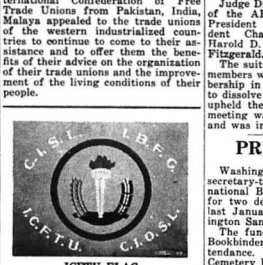
CHEER CHINA SPOKESMAN

Milan, Italy.—Delegates to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions cheered loudly when Wang Chu-chi, refugee trade union leader from China, promised that China's workers would join as one man in a gigantic movement to overthrow the communist dictators of China.

Mr. Wang said that armed resistance against Mao Tse-tung's communist regime has pread throughout China and that thousands of anti-Red guerrillas, south of the Yangtze Valley, are being "aided spiritually and materially" through efforts of the American Federation of Labor and the Free China Labor League in Formosa.

RANDOLPH PICKED

Milan, Italy—President A. Philip Randolph of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was picked by the North American delegates to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to present their views on organizing free trade unions among workers in the underdeveloped areas of the world.



ICFTU FLAG

Milan, Italy.—Flown for the first time at the 2d World Congress International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the flag symbolizes ICFTU slogan—"Bread, Peace and Freedom"—an ear of corn and olive branch on either side of the torch of liberty. It was designed by Flemish artist Rene Boschmans.

AFL Firemen Win Omaha Court Rule

Omaha, Neb.—The AFL Omaha Firemen's Local Union 385 won a court decision over a CIO raiding union which upheld the AFL union's right to a $9,500 fund and property.

District Judge William Day ruled that the AFL union has not at any time been dissolved, and should not be dissolved and is now in full existence. He ruled Local 385 entitled to all money and property involved.

Judge Day generally ruled in favor of the AFL union and its officers, President Jack Mattern, Vice President Charles Walters, Secretary Harold D. Dillon and Treasurer Leo Fitzgerald.

The suit was brought by three CIO members who had dropped their membership in the AFL union and voted to dissolve the AFL local. The court upheld the AFL that the dissolution meeting was held without due notice and was invalid.

PREWITT DIES

Washington.—Jouett B. Prewitt, 67, secretary-treasurer of the AFL International Brotherhood of Bookbinders for two decades until his retirement last January, died July 5 at Washington Sanitarium.

The funeral was held July 7 with Bookbinder and AFL officials in attendance. Burial was in Rock Creek Cemetery here.

Mr. Prewitt, who lived at 3618 Jocelyn St., N.W., came to Washington 20 years ago from Kansas City, Mo., where he had worked many years at his trade. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Pauline Prewitt, two children, Kenneth, 4, and Paula, 2; one brother, O. P. Prewitt, Medford, Ore., and a sister, Miss Addie Prewitt, Kansas City.

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